Assemblyman John W. Hasper has announced that the State of New York Mortgage Agency (SONYMA) is increasing the opportunity for area residents to achieve the American dream of owning a home.

Hasper explained that as part of its affordable housing program, SONYMA is making available low-interest loans to first-time home buyers. The new "Modest Means Home Buyers Program" will provide a total of \$10 million in four percent mortgage money to qualifying first-time home buyers with low and modest incomes.

The program is especially designed for people who have been essentially "locked out" of the housing market because of their modest income levels, Hasper said. "The loans will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. There are no deadlines, but this demonstration program will end when funds are exhausted," the lawmaker explained.

Because this is a special program designed to help low and modest income individuals and families, Hasper pointed out that several criteria must be met by applicants. Included are:

All applicants must be firsttime home buyers.

All applicants must be credit worthy, have a steady job, pay bills on time and generally meet the normal credit standards for mortgage loans. An applicant's credit history must be sound.

Only existing homes qualifythe home chosen must have been

previously occupied. Applicants must be able to prove that their income does not exceed the special maximums outline in a chart. The total income of all adults (20 years and older at time of application) who will occupy the home must not exceed these income limits.

Parttime incomes of all adults in the household must be included.

Eligibility will be based on current income and tax returns from the previous three years. Both the applicant's current income, as well as their income for each of the last three years must be below

the special maximums. Applicants must occupy the home within 60 days of closing the mortgage and it must be the applicant's principal residence.

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RUSSELL SCHMIDT

#### Dansville Man **Heads Area Unit**

Russell D. Schmidt of Dansville has been elected president of the Maple Country Life Underwriters Association for the 1987-88 term. Schmidt is a branch manager for Metropolitan Life.

The local affiliate is associated with the state and national associations of life underwriters; a professional organization which promotes the ethical and professional marketing of life insurance and financial planning.

Other local officers for the 1987-88 term include Steve Lemen of vice-president; Rosemary Smith, secretary; and Joseph Faller, treasurer.

BUY OF THE WEEK Size 16 Common 50 lb. box

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RURAL QUIET - C & R Farms, owned by Charles and Robin Potter of Ossian is seen in this view taken recently on old Ossian Hill Road looking east. The scene is warm now but promises of change are in the offing in a few weeks.

#### LISTEN VETERAN BY EDWARD C. BALTHASAR

VETERAN COUNSELOR

If you receive a veterans pension, either as a vet or as a widow, and have a lasting disability that confines you to your home, you may qualify for additional benefits

Contact you local office and ask about the Housebound or Aid and Attendance benefits. It could make a real difference in your life.

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Genesse Country Express, Tiv raday, September 17, 1987 - Page 13,

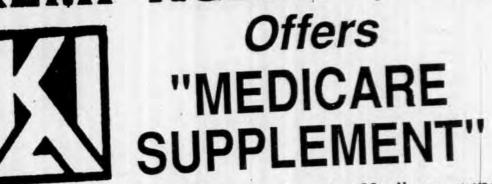
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For more information, call 716-658-3940

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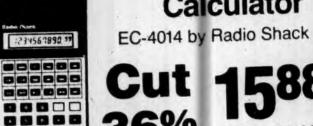
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